



DIVISION OF ADULT PAROLE OPERATIONS

Program Development Unit

PDU QUARTERLY

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The Holiday Season and Year 2009

Happy New Year from the Program Development Unit (PDU)! As we begin 2009, let's renew our commitment to work together to meet and exceed our mission "to protect the public and assist parolees in their reintegration to society." Through the services provided by PDU's programs, we have a unique opportunity to make a difference in the lives of parolees and their families as well as the community. In addition to providing critical services, programs are often seen as a sanctuary and extended family to many parolees. This is evident by the parolees' participation in the numerous holiday activities, such as the following, that the PDU programs organized this holiday season.

Thanksgiving dinners were hosted for parolees and one program conducted an essay contest on "What Thanksgiving Means to Me." In addition to decorating and preparing holiday meals, parolees participated in the Toys for Tots and Teen program, talent shows, a Christmas parade, and performed in program choirs. There were also outdoor barbecues and games, visits from Santa Claus, and a performance by a rock band. One program got in the spirit of giving by donating Christmas toys and books to the children of their resident parolees. Another program held a Parenting Lab/Christmas Function, which included gifts, food, and games. At this event, parolees and their children engaged in organized activities led by program staff/counselors to enrich parenting skills. One program was chosen to receive toys for their parolees' families from the annual Unity Ride toy run organized by Wheels of Grace (Motorcycle Magazine) and Angel Tree (an organization of Prison Fellowship that provides toys to children of inmates). Over 200 toys were collected and distributed at the program's annual Christmas Celebration. Several programs gave Christmas stockings to their parolees, many of whom commented that this was the first stocking they had received since they were children. On a final note, PDU would like to thank everyone who helped make this an enjoyable holiday season.



An evening view of the State Capitol decorated for the holidays

PROGRAM OF THE QUARTER

What Odessa Offers

The Odessa Day Reporting Center (DRC), operated by Behavior System Southwest (BSS) and located in Van Nuys, California, provides services to parolees who are at risk of violating their parole. The DRC program is designed to increase the success of parole adjustment by addressing criminality, substance abuse and employability issues, while introducing parolees back into their respective communities and family systems. The DRC program provides a strictly supervised and safe environment that offers an element of structure in the parolee's lifestyle to help develop a long term strategy to reduce recidivism. The Odessa DRC offers services such as substance abuse education/prevention; cognitive and life skills development; parenting and family reintegration; budgeting and money management; anger and stress management; women's group; educational services/GED preparation; and job readiness/search to help integrate parolees back into society.



Growing Program

Since their commencement of services in February 2008, Odessa DRC staff has worked diligently with parole agents to market their program and increase referrals. In addition to visiting parole units and educating Parole Agents on the DRC, staff attends Parole and Community Team meetings as well as unit supervisor meetings to market their program. These ongoing efforts, along with BSS' extensive counseling and rehabilitative experience, have significantly increased the referral and utilization of the Odessa DRC.



Happy Holidays from the staff at Odessa!

About Behavior System Southwest

The BSS has been in the counseling and rehabilitation business for approximately 35 years. In the early 1970s, the founders of the company successfully secured federal grant money to counsel and educate heroin addicts in a residential setting. Later in the decade, the company expanded into alcohol recovery and opened several residential treatment facilities under contract with various governmental agencies. In the late 1970s, the company obtained three federal contracts to operate community treatment centers in Los Angeles, Riverside, and Phoenix. Today, BSS operates several community based programs in California and Arizona, including six Federal Community Corrections Centers, two State Community Correctional Re-entry Centers/Parolee Service Centers in Los Angeles and Van Nuys, and a large Drinking Driver Program in Los Angeles. The residential programs currently maintain a range from 30 to 112 beds, while the Drinking Driver Program maintains 800 plus active participants on an outpatient basis.

PROGRAM INFORMATION

Residential Multi-Service Center

The Residential Multi-Service Center (RMSC) program's primary goal is to provide housing, sustenance, and life skills training with a variety of services. RMSC targets male and female parolees who are homeless or living in at-risk environments.

Current Events: *West Care held a Graduation Ceremony in Fresno on November 13, 2008. New Directions participated in the Beyond Incarceration 2008, Successful Parolee Banquet and Workshop, on November 25, 2008.*

Community Based Coalition

The Community Based Coalition (CBC) program provides housing and supportive services to parolees at increased risk of violating their parole and returning to custody. Parolees participate in the CBC program for up to 180 days and, on a case by case basis, up to one year.

Current Events: *The Sacramento CBC participated in a toy drive.*



Employment Development Department

The Employment Development Department program is designed to assist parolees with obtaining employment and providing necessary skills to retain employment. This is accomplished through weekly workshops, job search preparation, job placement, and job retention assistance.

Parolee Employment Program

The Parolee Employment Program (PEP), administered by community contractors, provides employment services to parolees at various parole sites. The program goal is to enable parolees to become responsible, self-sufficient, tax-paying members of society by providing individual employment plans, job development workshops, and job placement services.

Current Events: *On November 6, 2008, Northern California Services League, the PEP provider in both San Jose and San Francisco, celebrated their 60th Anniversary.*

Offender Employment Continuum

The Offender Employment Continuum provides services to inmates, as they reach 120 days from parole, through a comprehensive three week / 90-hour employability readiness workshop. This transitions them into the workforce upon parole, providing referrals to existing CDCR funded employment services in the community.

Day Reporting Centers

The Day Reporting Center program is designed to provide non-residential supportive services to parolees who are at-risk of violating their parole and returning to custody. It is a voluntary program considered as a parolee resource center to assist parolees in their reintegration back into society.

Current Events: *Sites in Orange, Santa Barbara, and Shasta/Redding areas are under negotiation.*

Parolee Service Center

The Parolee Service Centers (PSC) provide residency, support services, and resources to parolees who are homeless or seeking positive changes to their current situation. The program enables successful reintegration into the community with a variety of services, including a 52-week domestic violence program.

Current Events: *24 PSC contracts (825 beds) expired on December 31, 2008. The new contracts, which were awarded through an Invitation for Bid, commenced January 1, 2009.*

Substance Abuse Treatment and Recovery

The Substance Abuse Treatment and Recovery (STAR) program is an "evidence-based" cognitive behavioral education program designed to provide substance abuse and relapse prevention instruction to parolees. STAR is a 30-day program available in selected parole units.

Current Events: *The Gold Country STAR opened on October 9, 2008.*

Computer Literacy Learning Center

The Computer Literacy Learning Center (CLLC) is a computer-assisted instructional program designed to increase the functional literacy skills of parolees, by increasing their reading and math skills a minimum of two grade levels and/or up to the sixth grade level, resulting in increased employability and parolee success.

Current Events: *CLLC hours were changed to Monday through Thursday 8am to 3pm and Friday 8am to 12pm, effective December 15, 2008.*



PROGRAM NEWS

PDU Networks with DAPO Parole Agents

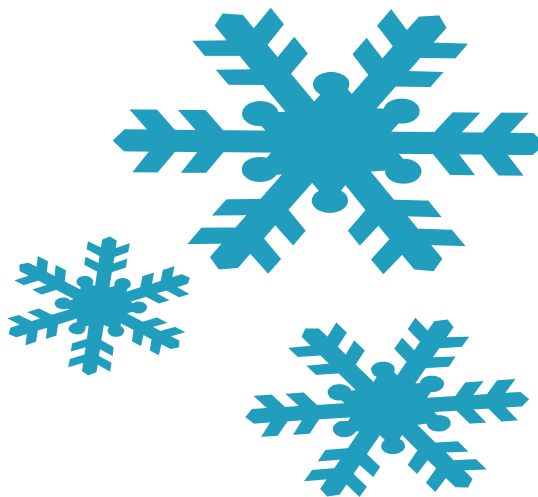
The PDU strives to serve the public and assist parole agents by developing and overseeing a wide range of resources and services that aid parolees in their reintegration to society. Programs such as residential multi-service centers, literacy labs, drug treatment education, and job-placement assistance programs, provide vital services to parolees seeking a positive change in their lives. In addition, many of these programs may be used for remedial sanction placements, in lieu of incarceration, which reduces prison overcrowding. The parole agent's support and use of these programs is essential for both the programs' success and the successful reintegration of parolees into society. Part of this success starts with the parole agents' training at the Parole Agent Academy and at parole units throughout the state. In addition, PDU Parole Agents and Parole Service Associates continually attend unit meetings at all DAPO Regions to provide program training and current information to assist with reintegration.

In an effort to enhance the rehabilitative culture of DAPO, parole agents receive in-depth training on the programs offered by PDU. During training, agents quickly learn the importance of providing rehabilitative services to parolees in need of life style changes. In addition, they learn the importance of maintaining a balance of providing services, while maintaining public safety. Agents become familiar with current programs and learn about the specific services each program has to offer.



On December 9, 2008, PDU staff conducted training for approximately 30 new parole agents at the Richard A. McGee Correctional Training Center in Galt. The training presented by Hansen Chi, Parole Agent II, and Robert Lofton, Parole Agent II, included an overview of the various PDU programs and the placement criteria. The agents were provided with sample CDCR 1502 forms, used for program referrals, and a list of locations and contact staff for the PDU programs located in each DAPO Region.

Through the use of rehabilitative programs, parole agents have a great opportunity to make a positive difference in the lives of parolees.



PROGRAM STATISTICS

SEPTEMBER 2008 – NOVEMBER 2008

Programs	September 2008	October 2008	November 2008
Residential Multi-Service Center <i>Occupancy</i>	99%	98%	98%
Parolee Service Center <i>Occupancy</i>	94%	91%	93%
Day Reporting Center <i>Parolees Served</i>	523	523	640
Community Based Coalition <i>Parolees Served</i>	400	362	454
Employment Development Department <i>Parolees Served</i>	136	143	94
Offender Employment Continuum <i>Parolees Served</i>	101	88	110
Substance Abuse Treatment and Recovery <i>Parolees Served</i>	538	503	518
Computer Literacy Learning Center <i>Instructional Hours</i>	22,664	24,036	19,003



Program Development Unit

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For additional PDU information and site locations refer to:

PDU website: www.cdcr.ca.gov

PDU mainline: (916)445-6200

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